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pKK233-2. This fragment was produced by the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) and the resulting plasmids were sequenced to confirm both in-frame insertion with the Shine-Dalgarno sequence and the appropriate sequence coding for the receptor.

In the Claims

Please cancel claim 24 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend the remaining claims as follows:

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23. (Fifth Amendment) An isolated peptide or polypeptide which is a fragment of the extracellular portion of the interferon receptor (IFN-R) of SEQ ID NO: 2, said peptide or polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence from position 27 to position 427 of SEQ ID NO: 2; wherein said peptide or polypeptide specifically binds to monoclonal antibody 64G12 deposited at the ECACC under no. 92022605.

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25. (Fifth Amendment) An isolated peptide or polypeptide which is a fragment of the extracellular portion of the interferon receptor (IFN-R) of SEQ ID NO: 2, said peptide or polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence from position 1 to position 229 of SEQ ID NO: 2; wherein said peptide or polypeptide specifically binds to monoclonal antibody 64G12 deposited at the ECACC under no. 92022605.

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26. (Fourth Amendment) An isolated peptide or polypeptide which is derived from a peptide or polypeptide as claimed in claim 23 or 25 by substitution of one or more amino acid residues and which retains the ability to specifically bind to monoclonal antibody 64G12 deposited at the ECACC under no. 92022605.

Please add the following claims:

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29. (New) An isolated peptide or polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence from position 1 to position 229 as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2.

30. (New) An isolated peptide or polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence from position 27 to position 427 as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2.
